

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 SS-15 DOE-15 SOE-02 STR-07
TRSE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6871

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 05883

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE FEELER ON ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR ENRICH-
MENT SERVICES

REF: (A) STATE 89316, (B) TOKYO 5794

1. YAMAMOTO, DIRECTOR OF ENERGY AGENCY'S NUCLEAR ENERGY
INDUSTRY DIVISION, HAS PROVIDED US WITH FOLLOWING BACK-
GROUND ON HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON (REFTEL A). YAMAMOTO
SAID THAT THE GOJ MINISTERIAL BODY WHICH MUST MAKE
FINAL DECISION ON ADVANCE PAYMENT HAS NOT YET MADE THIS
DECISION, AND THAT HIS VISIT WILL BE FACT-FINDING AND
EXPLORATORY IN NATURE - PRESUMABLY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION
ON WHICH SUCH A GOJ DECISION CAN BE BASED. DURING HIS
STAY IN WASHINGTON, YAMAMOTO WISHES TO EXPLORE TERMS
AND CONDITIONS OF ADVANCE PAYMENT PROCEDURE, SUCH AS
PROVISION FOR ESCALATION OF SWU PRICE, USING PRECEDENT
ESTABLISHED WITH AEC IN 1972-73, AS A BASIS FOR TALKS.

2. AS NOTED IN TOKYO 5794, WHICH APPARENTLY CROSSED
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STATE 89316, MITI'S INTENTION TO PURSUE MATTER OF ADVANCE
PURCHASE OF ENRICHMENT SERVICES IS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE HERE
(SO FAR THESE REPORTS DO NOT INCLUDE FACT OF YAMAMOTO
TRIP, HOWEVER). YAMAMOTO CONFIRMED GENERAL TENOR OF
THESE REPORTS, NAMELY THAT MITI IS INTERESTED IN ARRANGING
FOR JAPANESE UTILITIES TO MAKE ADVANCE PAYMENT OF ABOUT
\$1 BILLION TOWARD ENRICHMENT SERVICES UNDER CONTRACT

ALREADY, FOR DELIVERY BEFORE 1985. FUNDS FOR TRANSACTION
WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO UTILITIES IN FORM OF FOREIGN
CURRENCY LOANS FROM GOJ.
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3. YAMAMOTO DID NOT CONFIRM OR DENY HIGH LEVEL INTEREST,
BUT PRIME MINISTER'S DESIRE FOR MAJOR NEW PURCHASES IS
WELL KNOWN. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT, FOR ITS PUBLIC
RELATIONS VALUE, HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ADVANCE PAYMENTS
AS A LIVE PROSPECT AT THE TIME OF HIS WASHINGTON VISIT.
MANSFIELD

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